

From: Justin Kao
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 7:19am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Hello,

I am writing to state that I feel the current proposed settlement with Microsoft is insufficient.

In particular:

1. Section III.J.2 exempts Microsoft from disclosing information about authentication and authorization to third parties that Microsoft does not judge to be businesses. This leaves out ALL open-source projects such as Apache, Samba, Wine, etc. which are developed by volunteers yet provide the vast majority of the available alternatives to Microsoft software! Essentially then, this settlement allows Microsoft to continue its anti-competitive practices against its largest competitors.

2. The settlement seems to do little with regards to fixing the results of past anti-competitive practices by Microsoft, namely the domination of Microsoft Office, Internet Explorer, Exchange, and other products. In addition to placing restraints on future behavior, the settlement should do something about the current monopoly. A good start would be to require openly documented file formats for Microsoft Office and openly documented protocols for communicating with Microsoft Exchange.

Thank you.

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They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety. --Benjamin Franklin